

The Daily Capital Journal



FULL LEASED
WIRE DISPA
HES

CIRCULATION IS
OVER 4000 DAILY

THIRTY-EIGHTH EAR SALEM, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1916 PRICE TWO CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

GERMANS TRY TO FORCE PASSAGE ACROSS MEUSE

Thousands of Troops Massed to Charge Across Pontoons When Laid

SLOPES OF GOOSE HILL A LABYRINTH OF MINES

Onslaught at Douaumont and Advance from Fresnes Expected

London, Mar. 8.—Under a storm of shells from three sides, a handful of French troops are still holding the ruins of Verdun, seven miles northwest of Verdun, dispatches declared.

As part of their major "nut cracker" attack against Verdun, the crown prince's men have driven in wedges on each side of Regneville, so the village is almost two-thirds surrounded and in danger of being crushed.

From their newly won positions on the east bank of the Meuse, the Germans are hurling tons of projectiles into the village. Covered by this fire, German engineers are trying to throw pontoon bridges across the Meuse just south of Regneville. Thousands of Teuton soldiers are held in reserve close by, ready to charge across these bridges and into the town.

French aeroplanes, hovering over the German lines, have returned to headquarters with reports which convince the French leaders that the crown prince is about to renew his onslaughts against General Petain's center at Douaumont. They also look for an attempt to advance from Fresnes, reported captured yesterday.

Repeated German infantry attacks on the summit of Goose Hill have failed. Their dead carpet the slopes. Heavy Teuton artillery has been hurried forward to blast the French from the crown of this eminence and clear the way for a successful infantry charge.

Goose Hill a Death Trap.

The loss of Forges and of Hill 205 is not regarded by the allies as very important, but critics are warning them the Germans may make their boldest strike in that region, northwest of Verdun.

In order to continue their advance, the Germans must charge up the side of Goose Hill. In anticipation of such a smash, the French have made the 1,000 yards of barren, rocky slope into a veritable death trap. Every foot of it is mined, and behind the French lines engineers wait to touch electric buttons which would send whole sections of the district skyward in a burst of flame and hurl hundreds of men into eternity at a single blow. Besides these mines, the ground is covered with a maze of barbed wire entanglement and cut up with pitfalls.

Troops could make but slow progress over it, and as they advanced among mines, pitfalls and barbed wire they would be constantly exposed to a concentrated fire from all the French machine guns on Goose Hill. It is estimated it would cost the Germans 10,000 lives to storm Goose Hill, but critics admit it might be worth the price.

Berlin is strangely silent regarding the most important fighting to the northwest of Verdun. Even French reports of German gains are not confirmed by Berlin. The messages from the German capital are chiefly with regard to preparations for the renewal of the

Selecting Jury for Trial of Rev. Madison Slaughter

Oroville, Cal., Mar. 8.—Attorneys for Rev. Madison Slaughter on trial charged with criminally attacking Gertrude Lamson, aged 15, will attempt to prove an alibi for him. This was made evident today by questions asked prospective jurors.

The defense also plans to throw a shadow on the Lamson girl's character, if possible, as Attorney Slaughter intimated in questioning veniremen that her veracity would be questioned.

Five talesmen had been passed, but still remained subject to peremptory challenge, when the second day's session began. Six candidates for jury duty were excused because of bias.

ENGLAND ALARMED OVER THE SITUATION

Afraid German American Controversy May Get Latter Into War

By Charles P. Stewart.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

London, Mar. 8.—Almost overnight Great Britain's views on the German-American situation has radically changed. The belief is growing that relations are more tense, and the possibility of war is seriously considered.

Danish and Dutch reports say Germany's bitterness toward the United States is increasing. It is not known whether this is due to congress upholding President Wilson's submarine policy.

War insurance brokers and others hitherto disinclined to regard the situation seriously are now alive to the possibilities of a German-American break.

Afternoon newspapers emphasized this view. Their headlines called attention to Wilson's Washington triumph and such phrases as "deeds cleared for action" and "Wilson defies German piracy" were numerous. Some still believe Germany will yield to America.

artillery battling north and east of the etidal.

Great Artillery Duel

Paris, Mar. 8.—Heavy artillery dueling continued last night on both banks of the Meuse. It was officially announced today. The situation north of Verdun was reported unchanged.

The cannonade was heaviest northwest of Verdun where the Germans are believed preparing for an attempt to capture Goose and Dead Man Hills.

Infantrymen stayed in their trenches northwest of Verdun last night while Germans shelled French positions, the communique said. Regarding other operations it announced:

"East of Malson De Champagne we captured trenches which the enemy took last Monday, and took 85 prisoners."

Along the Manheules railway and track, near Fresnes, several German attacks broke down under artillery fire. The French artillery devoted its attention principally to Blanzey and Rimecourt east of Fort Moulainville.

Germans Make Gains

Berlin, Mar. 8.—German capture of Forges, Regneville, Raben and Camieres Heights was officially announced today.

Ten cannon, 3,277 men and 58 officers were taken, it was claimed.

Germans Advance Two Miles

Berlin, Mar. 8.—West of Regneville on the west bank of the Meuse river the Germans have stormed a front of three and a half miles below Bethincourt for a gain of nearly two miles, it was officially announced today. Last night's gains were the largest since the battle for Verdun began.

The capture of Regneville, seven miles northwest of Verdun, and Forges, eight miles northwest, was claimed officially. Positions on Raben Heights and in the Camieres woods were also declared to have been seized. Germans drove the French from the few houses they still held in Fresnes, capturing 700.

Capture Russian Trenches

Berlin, Mar. 8.—Austrians have captured 1,000 yards of Russian trenches northwest of Tarnopol, it was officially telegraphed from Vienna today.

Closing Jaws of Trap

London, Mar. 8.—Capturing Regneville and advancing over Woerwe plains, the jaws of the giant German "nut cracker" closed more tightly on Verdun today.

Berlin reported the right jaw seized Regneville, the French being ousted in hand to hand combats from the few wrecked houses they still held there. The loss of Forges to the Teutons, previously admitted by Paris, was announced by Berlin.

Twelve miles southeast of Verdun the left jaw swept forward across the Woerwe plain. Fresnes was reported entirely in German possession.

On the west bank of the Meuse, west of Regneville, a two mile gain was officially claimed by Berlin. Along a front of three and a half miles the Teutons stormed French trenches. This is the largest gain since the Verdun fight began.

Now is the time for all good Americans to come to the aid of their president.

S P MAKES OFFER TO COMPROMISE FOR \$10,000,000

Claims Timber Is Worth Thirty to Fifty Millions, and Belongs To It

THIS WOULD MAKE PRICE ABOUT \$4.40 PER ACRE

Puter Admits Contracts Give Him Right to Buy Lands of 1300 Locators

Washington, Mar. 8.—For a consideration of \$10,000,000 the Southern-Pacific railroad today offered to relinquish all claim to the Oregon and California land grants.

J. P. Blair, general counsel of the railroad, made the offer to the house public lands committee. He pointed out the railroad now claims the right to remove all timber, which is worth from \$30,000,000 to \$50,000,000 but is willing to compromise to avoid further litigation.

The Southern Pacific proposition amounts to about \$4.40 an acre.

Attorney General Gregory advised the committee the railroad is not entitled to over \$2.50 an acre with reductions for past excess sales. This would make the amount to be received by the road less than \$6,000,000.

S. A. D. Puter, noted in Oregon land fraud history, appeared in behalf of 1300 settlers he has located on the property, and for whom he desires preference rights.

Facing a running fire of questions, Puter admitted his contracts with settlers gave him a right to re-purchase a large share of their lands at a nominal price if they once gain title.

Lane County Asks Railroad Commission To Settle Controversy

The county court of Lane county today petitioned the Public Service commission to settle the damages and other questions involved in the controversy between the Willamette Pacific railroad company and the county court relative to part of the county road that was taken for railroad purposes in the construction of the railroad from Eugene to Marshfield. The road is known as the Simons highway and for the greater part of the distance extends along the steep banks of a mountain stream, the Simons river and Wildcat creek.

In some places the railroad constructed a wagon road above or below their tracks when the old stage road fell within the right of way but the county court refused to accept the company's road in some instances and the parties could not agree on the question of damages, the controversy has been pending for three years. This is the first time such a controversy has been appealed to the public service commission since the law went into effect.

Cheer up. The world some day will go back to international chess competitions.

WILSON WILL TAKE VIGOROUS ACTION TO SETTLE DISPUTE

Washington, Mar. 8.—With his hands unshaken by the action of congress in refusing to warn Americans off armed liners, President Wilson today prepared to resume his submarine negotiations with Germany. Prompt action in both the German and the British controversies is expected.

While seeking more definite German assurances with regard to the Teuton armed merchantman campaign and urging an immediate execution of the Lusitania and Arabic reparations pledges, the administration will investigate the alleged secret orders of the British admiralty for armed ships to attack submarines on sight. State department experts have translated the appendices submitted to this government by Germany in support of the claim that such orders exist. With photographic copies of the alleged orders the appendices are ready for action by Secretary Lansing, German Ambassador Von Bernstorff arranged to confer with Lansing at 11 o'clock.

All adherents of the administration expressed keen satisfaction at the announcement of the president's warning resolution.

The final ballot of 276 to 142 demonstrated to the satisfaction of administration supporters that congress stands behind the president in his feelings toward Europe.

HI GILL ELECTED

Seattle, Wash., Mar. 8.—Hiram C. Gill was re-elected mayor yesterday by a majority of 6,000 over Rustin E. Griffiths, his former chief of police.

Hugh C. Caldwell defeated James E. Bradford, the present incumbent, for corporation counsel by 6,000 votes, and three new councilmen elected are former Mayor William H. Moore, former City Engineer R. H. Thomson, and Councilman C. B. Fitzgerald. Harry W. Carroll was re-elected city controller, and Ed L. Terry re-elected city treasurer.

AMENDMENT TO STATE CONSTITUTION TO BE AIM OF CONFERENCE

Delegates to Irrigation Conference Will Work for Success at Polls

Nearby 100 delegates to the State Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Credits conference will meet at the state house tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock to consider the advisability of submitting a constitutional amendment to the people of this state providing for the issuance of bonds for drainage, irrigation and rural credits. One of the first subjects to be considered is whether or not to consider irrigation, drainage and rural credits together, or whether to consider irrigation and drainage together and rural credits separately. Others who will be present at the conference consist of each topic properly belongs in a separate class.

The present conference was suggested at the Oregon Irrigation congress at its fifth annual session which was held in Portland December 28, 29 and 30, 1915. At this time the congress urged the adoption of an amendment to the state constitution to provide for the features to be proposed and a committee of five was appointed to call the state conference together. The conference can only advise by resolutions. It is expected that a constitutional amendment will be drafted providing for the issuance of bonds and that the conference will take the necessary steps and perfect the necessary organization to secure the placing of these measures upon the ballot at the next general state election and to conduct the campaign necessary to secure their adoption by the voters of the state.

The conference is to be made up of 35 accredited delegates to be composed of the president and four members of each of the following organizations: The Oregon State Grange, Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union, Oregon Federation of Labor, Portland Chamber of Commerce.

One delegate to be named by each of the following railroads: Northern Pacific, Great Northern, Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company, Spokane, Portland & Seattle railway, Southern Pacific, Portland Railway, Light & Power company, Oregon Development league, Oregon Drainage association.

(Continued on Page Three.)

ALKALI CHEMICAL PLANT IS BURNED AT NIAGARA FALLS

Terrific Explosion Sends Roof 100 Feet In Air, Lands Block Away

GREAT STEEL TANKS ARE DRIVEN THROUGH WALLS

Locomotives, Cars and Machinery Lie In Tangled Mass In Yards

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Mar. 8.—With one man known to be dead, a score missing the entire fire department of Niagara Falls fought today to save the Niagara Alkali Chemical company's plant, where fire started with a terrific explosion shortly before midnight.

The chemical company manufactures nitrate as a byproduct for several power companies. It was also understood to have on hand an immense number of direct wire orders.

The fire started with an explosion in the peroxide building and 12 or 15 even more violent blasts followed in quick succession. The city was rocked as by an earthquake, while the peroxide plant was blown to pieces.

Just before 9 o'clock today a new series of eight explosions again shook the plant. They developed a new fire, which rapidly approached the storage house. Should the blaze reach this store house more explosions demolishing the entire plant and possibly damaging adjoining portions of the city are feared.

Officials are unable to estimate the number of men in the peroxide building when the first blast occurred. Several foot high walls like projectiles, one sank in the Niagara river 100 yards distant. A string of freight cars two blocks away were bowled over and a huge electric hauling locomotive demolished. Machinery of every description was heaped around the yard in tangled, twisted masses.

Firemen were unable to turn streams on the ruins because fresh explosions occurred when the water struck the burning debris.

The plant has been closely guarded since the recent dynamite explosion in another part of it.

Dr. H. R. Carvath, general head of the company, said the concern had been making sodium peroxide for years. He concluded that the explosions and fire were not accidental. Carvath believed all in the building had been accounted for with one dead and one fatally hurt.

The room in which explosives are stored is separated from the burning building by a thick fire wall, but the doors have burned through and an explosion dwarfing the earlier blasts is expected. Officials and firemen crouching behind other buildings, powerless.

Market Was Sluggish But Prices Advance

(Copyrighted 1916, by the New York Evening Post.)

New York, Mar. 8.—The market was again extremely irregular today with a bewildering mixture of advances and declines. This might have been ascribed to simultaneous news of the house vote to support the administration's foreign policy and the German successes at Verdun.

Whatever the cause, the confusion lasted until the closing hour when Washington's indication of some prospect of removing the submarine difficulty started a vigorous, general advance.

The extent to which Berlin's new and more amicable attitude seemed destined to straighten out existing diplomatic crisis remains to be seen. The market, however, continued to reflect distinct reassurance, ending the day strong and active.

PROHIBITION IS REPEALED

Rutland, Vt., Mar. 8.—Local option was overthrown in this state today by a margin of 13,164 votes. The prohibitory amendment was first placed on the statute books in 1852 and was repealed in 1903 by a majority of 739.

The vote today on the question of re-enacting the amendment was: Yes, 15,505; no, 31,667. Every county in the state with the exception of Orleans gave a majority in favor of local option.

Nursery Jingles for Kids Instead of Castor Oil

San Francisco, Mar. 8.—Nursery rhymes as a means of hastening invalid children back to health is an innovation being successfully worked out at the San Francisco hospital.

Illness no longer means that a child loses its schooling and regular daily besides classes are being held as well as kindergarten and nursery classes, according to Miss Florence Rossie, in charge of the hospital exhibit at the "baby week" show.

When the child recovers he is able to return to school with but few lessons lost. Physicians have discovered that the reading of certain happy jingles and rhymes has helped children back to health.

JUDGE GARY INDICTED AT YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

114 Persons and Corporations Indicted with Him --He Calls It "Outrage"

Youngstown, Ohio, Mar. 8.—The Mahoning county grand jury today indicted Judge Elbert H. Gary and officers of six large steel companies on a charge of violating the Valentine anti-trust law, an Ohio statute. Charges of conspiring to keep down the wages of common laborers were also made.

The indictments were an outgrowth of the strike riots of East Youngstown. There are 62 counts. The grand jury found no foreign government was responsible for the trouble.

The indictment alleges guards of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company participated in the riots. It reports that evidence from 562 witnesses, taken during hearings lasting a month, showed a "lawless condition of affairs in the steel industry, indicating disregard by the indicted individuals and corporations of either the rights of justice to the laboring class or the public generally."

One hundred and fourteen persons and corporations were indicted.

Magnate Is Angry.

New York, Mar. 8.—Judge Elbert H. Gary, steel magnate, today termed an "outrage" the indictment against him in connection with the grand jury investigation of East Youngstown strike riots.

"There are no acts to justify indictments against the United States Steel Corporation, the Carnegie Steel companies or any of their officers," declared Gary. "As far as I know, there are no grounds for indictments against any other steel corporations. This is an outrage and a travesty on justice."

"SUNRISE SLUMBER" IS NOW IN REACH OF POOR

San Francisco, Mar. 8.—"Sunrise slumber," declared by leading physicians to be the real application of an improved "twilight sleep" method of painless childbirth is no longer for the rich alone. In San Francisco "Judy O'Grady" as well as "The Colonel's lady" can now enjoy the results of scientific discovery, according to the announcement of Dr. J. Lynch, head of the University of California obstetrical department, in charge of the college at the "baby week" show in exposition auditorium.

Free administration of the "sunrise slumber" treatment is now being given at the University of California clinics and mothers too poor to afford the scientific luxuries are getting the benefit.

"Sunrise slumber" has all the painless effects of "twilight sleep" without the dangers. It consists of an administration of a mixture of laughing gas and oxygen. The patient remains conscious during an operation, and is able to use the method alone by means of a glass hood, which mechanically falls from the hands as soon as the drug commences to take effect.

New Method Takes Place of Twilight Sheep for Painless Childbirth

Washington, Mar. 8.—Germany's latest memorandum, delivered to the state department today, may be its last word, in the armed liner controversy.

The memorandum may be summarized in two sentences. The fact it was delivered today is regarded as significant, immediately following, as it does the congressional vote to leave further negotiations to President Wilson and the state department.

The suggestion that allied concessions might modify the kaiser's decree of war without mercy against armed liners was renewed in the note. This is interpreted as showing Germany hopes America may resume its attempt to have the allies disarm merchantmen, permitting further discussion of the question.

The administration's next course of action has not yet been announced. Secretary Lansing spent the day studying the appendices and photographic copies of alleged British orders for armed liners to attack submarines. It is understood that if the state department acts it will submit copies of the appendices to the British embassy first.

It was explained at the state department, however, that if investigation proved certain ships were offensively armed, the government would feel justified in declaring them auxiliary cruisers. This in itself would absolve the government of responsibility for possible deaths of Americans aboard them.

SEEK ENGLISH FLEET

London, Mar. 8.—Twenty-nine German battleships were encountered off Ymuiden on Monday by a Dutch lugger, according to the newspaper Vredeland said Rotterdam dispatches today. They engaged the whereabouts of the English fleet, then steered north by northeast. A flotilla of destroyers accompanied them. The main fleet was composed of dreadnaughts.

THE WEATHER

Oregon: Tonight and Thursday occasional rain in northwest, unsettled and probably rain in south and east portions, and southerly winds fresh to strong near the coast.

Abe Martin



"I'd like to see fifty dollars right now that we'll be in the war in another month," said Tilford Moots, this morning, as he charged a nutmeg at the grocery. The right 't vote bain't in it with less year.